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POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION

January 28, 2020

Commissioner Robert G. Taub, Chairman
Commissioner Michael M. Kubayanda, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Mark Acton
Commissioner Ann C. Fisher
Commissioner Ashley E. Poling
Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268

RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners:

The National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) joins The Nonprofit Alliance and the nonprofit mailing community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. Increases that are estimated to reach 7 percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on both the agency and its customers.

As a nonprofit organization, NMWA relies heavily on mail for the majority of our fundraising while operating on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year. If postage goes up as much as you envision, we will be forced to greatly reduce our invitation mailings for donations. This will have a devastating impact on our revenue and our mission.

The National Museum of Women in the Arts brings recognition to the achievements of women artists of all periods and nationalities by exhibiting, preserving, acquiring, and researching art by women and by teaching the public about their accomplishments. NMWA is the only major museum in the world solely dedicated to championing women through the arts.

Currently, direct mail is NMWA's largest source of donation income. Fulfilling our mission is dependent on our capability to operate and develop resources efficiently and in a cost-effective way. Postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years will force us to mail significantly less and diminish our abilities to advocate for better representation of women artists and serve as a vital center for thought leadership, community engagement, and social change.

Please do the right thing and reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,



Christina Knowles
Director of Development, Annual Giving and Membership